C.3
N.D

153454

SITE SUMMARY
SAUGET AREA 1 SITE

ILD 981 953 623	**ILD 984 809 277**
ILD 980 792 006	**ILD 984 809 269**
ILD 984 809 285	**ILD 984 809 251**
ILD 980 614 176	**ILD 982 073 603**

The Sauget Area 1 site consists of nine sources in the villages of Sauget and Cahokia, St. Clair County, Illinois. Originally named the village of Monsanto, the village changed its name to Sauget in 1968. Sources at the site include intermittent portions of Dead Creek, as well as impoundments, and low-lying areas or former gravel pits in the vicinity used for waste disposal. The Sauget Area 1 site has been the subject of extensive waste disposal activities since the 1930s.

Prior to the late 1930s, industries located along Dead Creek (where Sources 1, 2, and 3 are located) let their wastes flow into the creek. After the construction of an interceptor sewer line to carry wastes to the Mississippi River, overflows continued to be routinely routed into Dead Creek. In the 1930s, residents complained about the disposal of wastes into Dead Creek and were awarded $4,000 by various industries located in the village of Monsanto. These industries included Monsanto Chemical Company, American Zinc Company, A. Lubrite Refining Company, Lewin Metals Reclaiming Company, Sterling Steel Corporation, Midwest Rubber Reclaiming Company, Federal Chemical Company, U.S. Chemical Warfare Service, Darling Fertilizer Company, and Union Electric Power Company. In 1979, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) received complaints about fires and smoldering in Dead Creek and in 1980, a dog allegedly died as a result of burns caused by the smoldering in the creek.

Leo Sauget, the former mayor of the village of Monsanto, allegedly owned and operated three landfills (Sources 4, 5, and 6 in the site area). According to documents to provided to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by the Monsanto Company, Monsanto disposed of wastes from its Queeny Plant in St. Louis and its Krummrich Plant in Sauget in a landfill along Falling Springs Road until 1957. Sources 5 and 6 are the only known landfills on Falling Springs Road. After 1957, the company disposed of wastes in its newly constructed landfill along the Mississippi River. In 1968, in a letter directed to the State of Illinois Sanitary Water Board, the Monsanto Company listed many of the wastes and constituents of wastes disposed of at its landfill along the Mississippi River. Several of these wastes and constituents have been detected at the Sauget Area 1 site.

The Waggoner Trucking Company (Waggoner) was cited by IEPA for discharging wash water directly into Dead Creek (Source 2). These wash waters were generated during the cleaning of trucks used to transport hazardous wastes. IEPA ordered Waggoner to sop discharging to Source 2. Waggoner then constructed an impoundment (Source 7) into which it, and, subsequently, the Ruan Trucking Company, continued to dispose of wash waters. The impoundment was designed to overflow into Dead Creek.

The H.H. Hall Construction Company owned two former sand pits located along Dead Creek (Sources 8 and 9). Sampling data and historical aerial photographs suggest that these pits were also used for waste disposal.

The Sauget Area 1 sources were aggregated because of their relative proximity to one another, similar and overlapping targets, shared watershed, and similar contamination. Sampling conducted by several parties has revealed organic and inorganic contamination in each of the sources. The compounds detected most frequently and at the highest concentrations include various chlorinated solvents, various chlorobenzenes, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), chlorophenols, nitroaniline, and heavy metals. Some of these contaminants have been found in each of the nine sources. Each of the sources is briefly described below.

Source 1 (Creek Segment [CS] A) was an impoundment created within the northern 1,750 feet of an intermittent portion of Dead Creek located on property owned by the Cerro Copper Products Co. (Cerro). Source 1 received backflow from the sanitary and industrial effluent from the village of Sauget sewer system and storm water runoff from Cerro. As part of a consent decree with the State of Illinois, Cerro removed about 20,000 yards of contaminated sediments from Source 1 in 1990.

Source 2 (CS-B) is an impoundment created within 1,925 feet of an intermittent portion of Dead Creek. Source 2 is located immediately downstream of Source 1. Source 2 received discharge from an outfall originating at the Midwest Rubber Co. (Midwest Rubber), discharge from Source 1, surface water runoff from Source 4, and overflow from Source 7. The creekbed downstream of this outfall is coated with rubbery material and contains a variety of hazardous substances.

Source 3 (CS-C through CS-E) is the contaminated soil (extending about 5,100 feet) within an intermittent portion of Dead Creek (segments CS-C through CS-E). Source 3 is located immediately downstream of Source 2 and historically received discharge from Sources 1 and 2.

Source 4 (Source G) is an inactive landfill occupying approximately 5.6 acres, located immediately west of Source 2 and south of Queeny Avenue. Source 4 operated as a landfill from 1950 until 1973.

Source 5 (Source H) is an inactive landfill occupying approximately 7.1 acres, located east of Source 2 and south of Queeny Avenue. Source 5 operated as a landfill from 1937 until 1957.

Source 6 (Source I) is an inactive landfill occupying approximately 18.9 acres, immediately east of Source 1, on property owned by Cerro. Source 6 operated as a landfill from 1937 until 1957. In 1989, a drilling crew working at Source 6 augured through a buried drum. An unknown amount of vapor was released and one worker was hospitalized overnight as a result of the incident.

Source 7 (Source L) is a backfilled surface impoundment that occupies about 7,600 square feet. From about 1971 to 1979, Waggoner Trucking Co. and, later, the Ruan Trucking Co. used Source 7 to dispose of wash water generated during the cleaning of hazardous waste tankers.

Source 8 (Source M) was a sand mining pit excavated by H.H. Hall Construction Co. in the 1940s. Source 8 occupies about 59,200 square feet, located immediately east of Source 2. Source 8 has been connected to Dead Creek by a channel since sometime prior to 1950. Sampling results and historical aerial photographs indicate that Source 8 was used for waste disposal. In addition, sediment from Source 2 has probably been transported into Source 8.

Source 9 (Source N) was a sand mining pit excavated by H.H. Hall Construction Co. that occupied about 4 acres. Source 9 is located immediately east of Dead Creek segment CS-C (part of Source 3). Sampling results and historical aerial photographs suggest that Source 9 was used for waste disposal.

None of the sources were adequately contained to prevent surface water runoff from migrating to downstream surface water bodies. A sediment sample collected downstream of the sources indicates that two PCBs (Aroclor 1254 and 1260), cadmium, cobalt, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, and zinc have migrated along Dead Creek to a wetland about 3,000 feet south of the site.

Other sensitive environments, including habitat for state and federally-designated endangered species and wetlands, are downstream of the contaminated wetland in Old Prairie duPont Creek, the Cahokia Chute of the Mississippi River, and the main channel of the Mississippi River. These water bodies, which also are used for recreational and commercial fishing, may be affected by the migration of hazardous substances from the site. No drinking water intakes are located along the surface water migration pathway within 15 miles of the site.

An observed release to air has been documented based on a drilling accident that occurred at Source 6 in 1989. As a result of this incident, one worker was hospitalized overnight. Soil samples collected from the location at which the accident occurred revealed volatile organic contaminants, including benzene, trichloroethene, chlorobenzene, tetrachloroethene, toluene, ethylbenzene; semivolatile organic contaminants, including 1,4-dichlorobenzene, 1,2-dichlorobenzene, and 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene; and PCBs.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) evaluated this incident and concluded that, based on the presence of volatile and semivolatile contaminants at high concentrations in the soil and the symptoms exhibited by one of the workers, this worker was probably exposed to one or more of the volatile or semivolatile contaminants present in the soil.

About 143,000 people within 4 miles of the Sauget Area 1 site are subject to potential air contamination.